REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Application #	10/569,963
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First Inventor	CUBRIC
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Examiner	Chang, Hanway
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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 18, 2010, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections to the claims be reconsidered and all claims found allowable based on the discussion which follows.

Claims 1-9, 12 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamec et al. (WO 01/084592) (hereinafter "Adamec"), in view of Mook et al. ("Construction and characterization of the fringe field…") (hereinafter "Mook"), in view of Eguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. RE37,717) (hereinafter "Eguchi"). In addition, claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamec in view of Mook and Eguchi, further in view of Brakenhoff (U.S. Patent No. 4,880,294) (hereinafter "Brakenhoff"), and claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamec, Mook and Eguchi, further in view of Brittell (U.S. Patent No. 5,749,646) (hereinafter "Brittell").

In the rejection to claims 1-9, 12 and 14-17, it was alleged that Adamec discloses all features of independent claim 1, except for the required filter assembly having the form of a monochromator and an aperture plate having an aperture of adjustable size.